

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the subject application.

Listing of Claims

1-107. (Canceled)

108. (New) A system comprising:

a device sized and arranged to be fastened directly to an electrical junction box;
wireless communication circuitry housed within the device, the wireless communication circuitry being electrically coupled to and powered by power lines fed into the electrical junction box;

a computing device associated with the device in wired communication with the wireless communication circuitry; and

a wireless transceiver base in communication with a network and the wireless communication circuitry, the wireless transceiver base facilitating communication exchanges between the network and the computing device via the wireless communication circuitry.

109. (New) The system of claim 108 wherein the computing device has a first electrical contact, the wall switch device comprises a docking station adapted to releasably secure the computing device, and wherein the docking station has a second electrical contact coupled to the wireless communication circuitry and adapted to mate with the first electrical contact to wiredly couple the computing device to the wireless communication circuitry.

110. (New) The system of claim 109 wherein the computing device comprises a PDA.

111. (New) The system of claim 108 wherein the network comprises a server that exchanges communications with the wireless communication circuitry via the wireless transceiver base.

112. (New) The system of claim 109 wherein the network comprises a gateway for exchanging communications between the server and the wireless transceiver base.

113. (New) The system of claim 108 wherein the network comprises the Internet.

114. (New) The system of claim 108 wherein the wireless transceiver base and the wireless communication circuitry communicate using the IEEE 802.11b wireless communication standard.

115. (New) The system of claim 108 wherein the wireless transceiver base and the wireless communication circuitry communicate using the Bluetooth™ communication standard.

116. (New) The system of claim 108 wherein the device includes an identifier which functions to distinguish the device from other devices that exchange communications with the wireless transceiver base.

117. (New) The system of claim 108 wherein the device further comprises a digital image capturing device in communication with the wireless communication circuitry whereby digital images captured by the digital image capturing device are transmittable to the network via the wireless communication circuitry and the wireless transceiver base.

118. (New) The system of claim 108 wherein the electrical junction box comprises a wall switch junction box.

119. (New) The system of claim 108 wherein the electrical junction box comprises a power outlet junction box.

120. (New) A system for placing a portable computing device having a first electrical contact in communication with a wireless network, comprising:

a device sized and arranged to be fastened directly to an electrical junction box;
and

wireless communication circuitry housed within the device, the wireless communication circuitry being electrically coupled to and powered by power lines fed into the electrical junction box;

wherein the device has a docking station adapted to releasably secure the portable computing device and wherein the docking station has a second electrical contact coupled to the wireless communication circuitry and adapted to mate with the first electrical contact to wiredly couple the portable computing device to the wireless communication

circuitry to thereby facilitate communication exchanges between the portable computing device and the wireless network.

121. (New) The system of claim 120 wherein the portable computing device comprises a PDA.

122. (New) The system of claim 120 wherein the wireless communication circuitry communicates with the network using the IEEE 802.11b wireless communication standard.

123. (New) The system of claim 120 wherein the wireless communication circuitry communicates with the network using the Bluetooth™ communication standard.

124. (New) The system of claim 120 wherein the device further comprises a digital image capturing device in communication with the wireless communication circuitry whereby digital images captured by the digital image capturing device are transmittable to the network via the wireless communication circuitry.

125. (New) The system of claim 120 wherein the electrical junction box comprises a wall switch junction box.

126. (New) The system of claim 120 wherein the electrical junction box comprises a power outlet junction box.

127. (New) A system for placing a portable computing device having a first electrical contact in communication with a network, comprising:

a device sized and arranged to be fastened directly to an electrical junction box;
and

communication circuitry housed within the device, the communication circuitry being electrically coupled to and powered by power lines fed into the electrical junction box;

wherein the device has a docking station adapted to releasably secure the portable computing device and wherein the docking station has a second electrical contact coupled to the communication circuitry and adapted to mate with the first electrical contact to wiredly couple the portable computing device to the communication circuitry to thereby facilitate communication exchanges between the portable computing device and the network via the power lines fed into the electrical junction box.

128. (New) The system of claim 127 wherein the portable computing device comprises a PDA.

129. (New) The system of claim 127 wherein the device further comprises a digital image capturing device in communication with the communication circuitry whereby digital images captured by the digital image capturing device are transmittable to the network via the communication circuitry.

130. (New) The system of claim 127 wherein the electrical junction box comprises a wall switch junction box.

131. (New) The system of claim 127 wherein the electrical junction box comprises a power outlet junction box.